

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:	:	
	:	Examiner:
Francois CUNCHON ET AL.	:	
	:	
Serial No.: To be assigned.	:	Group Art Unit:
	:	
Filed: June 20, 2001	:	Corresponding to:
	:	FR 00 07862
	:	Filed June 20, 2000
For: <b>COMPUTING MACHINE WITH HARD STOP-TOLERANT DISK FILE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM</b>	:	
	:	
	:	McLean, Virginia

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

After the title and before the first paragraph on page 1 at line 4, insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

--FIELD OF THE INVENTION--;

Page 1, line 6, before the paragraph beginning "In a known way...", insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

Page 1, at line 30, and before the paragraph beginning "To eliminate ..."  
insert the following paragraph at the left-hand margin:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--;

Page 2, at line 9 and before the paragraph beginning "Other details...", insert the following heading at the left hand margin:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--;

Page 2, at line 13 and before the paragraph beginning "Referring to Fig. 1...", insert the following heading at the left hand margin:

--DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT(S)--;

Page 5, after line 13, insert the following new paragraph.

--While this invention has been described in conjunction with specific embodiments thereof, it is evident that many alternatives, modifications and variations will be apparent to those skilled in the art. Accordingly, the preferred embodiments of the invention as set forth herein, are intended to be illustrative, not limiting. Various changes may be made without departing from the true spirit and full scope of the invention as set forth herein and defined in the claims.—

### IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel the claims in their entirety and substitute the following claims for the claims in the application. The claims that follow are a complete set of "clean" claims. The original claims marked up to show the changes with underlining and bracketing are included as an attachment to this Preliminary Amendment:

1           --9. (old claim 1) A computing machine (1) comprising a RAM (3) and a  
2 mass memory (5) operating system for the machine stored in the mass memory, the  
3 mass memory (5) including a partition (8), said partition being read-only accessible  
4 to the operating system, and containing a startup function, an automatic repair  
5 function, and a mounting function for mounting said operating system.

1           10. (old claim 2) A computing machine according to claim 9, characterized  
2 in that said startup function comprises a first code sequence for loading the contents  
3 of the partition (8) into the RAM (3) and a second code sequence for activating said  
4 automatic repair function in the RAM.

1           11. (old claim 3) A computing machine according to claim 10,  
2 characterized in that said automatic repair function comprises a third code sequence  
3 that calls said mounting function, executable in RAM (3) with write capability in at  
4 least one other partition (9) of the mass memory (5).

1           12. (old claim 4) A computing machine according to claim 11,  
2 characterized in that said automatic repair function comprises a fourth code  
3 sequence for acknowledging an error indicated by said mounting function and a fifth  
4 code sequence for restarting the machine after the acknowledgement of the error.

1           13. (old claim 5) A computing machine according to claim 12,  
2 characterized in that said partition (8) contains a standard acknowledgement function

3 and in that the fourth code sequence calls said standard acknowledgement function  
 4 executable in RAM with write capability in at least one other partition (9) of the mass  
 5 memory.

1 14. (old claim 6) A computing machine according to claim 9, characterized in  
 2 that the mass memory (5) is a hard disk.

1 15. (new claim) A computing machine according to claim 9, further including  
 2 a switch for resetting the RAM and restarting the machine.

1 16 (old claim 7) A method for automatically starting a computing machine  
 2 (1) having a RAM (3) and a mass memory (5) having an operating system stored  
 3 therein, characterized in that it comprises:

- 4 – starting operation of the machine (1) by means of a signal (7);
- 5 – loading into RAM (3) the contents of a partition (8) of the mass memory  
 6 (5);
- 7 – mounting an operating system from the RAM (3); and
- 8 – acknowledging any error indicated in mounting the operating system  
 9 and reactivating the loading of the contents.

1 17. (old claim 8) A method according to claim 16, characterized in that it  
 2 comprises, in the manufacturing phase of the machine (1):

- 3 – creating partitions (8, 9) in the mass memory (5);
- 4 – storing at least part of the operating system and functions for executing  
 5 the second, third and fourth steps (15, 16, 17) in a first partition (8); and

6           –       said first partition (8) to be read-only accessible to said operating  
7           system.--

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	BALANCE
1900	TO BALANCE	100.00	100.00
1901	BY SALES	150.00	250.00
1902	BY SALES	200.00	450.00
1903	BY SALES	180.00	630.00
1904	BY SALES	220.00	850.00
1905	BY SALES	250.00	1100.00
1906	BY SALES	280.00	1380.00
1907	BY SALES	300.00	1680.00
1908	BY SALES	320.00	2000.00
1909	BY SALES	350.00	2350.00
1910	BY SALES	380.00	2730.00
1911	BY SALES	400.00	3130.00
1912	BY SALES	420.00	3550.00
1913	BY SALES	450.00	4000.00
1914	BY SALES	480.00	4480.00
1915	BY SALES	500.00	4980.00
1916	BY SALES	520.00	5500.00
1917	BY SALES	550.00	6050.00
1918	BY SALES	580.00	6630.00
1919	BY SALES	600.00	7230.00
1920	BY SALES	620.00	7850.00
1921	BY SALES	650.00	8500.00
1922	BY SALES	680.00	9180.00
1923	BY SALES	700.00	9880.00
1924	BY SALES	720.00	10600.00
1925	BY SALES	750.00	11350.00
1926	BY SALES	780.00	12130.00
1927	BY SALES	800.00	12930.00
1928	BY SALES	820.00	13750.00
1929	BY SALES	850.00	14600.00
1930	BY SALES	880.00	15480.00
1931	BY SALES	900.00	16380.00
1932	BY SALES	920.00	17300.00
1933	BY SALES	950.00	18250.00
1934	BY SALES	980.00	19230.00
1935	BY SALES	1000.00	20230.00
1936	BY SALES	1020.00	21250.00
1937	BY SALES	1050.00	22300.00
1938	BY SALES	1080.00	23380.00
1939	BY SALES	1100.00	24480.00
1940	BY SALES	1120.00	25600.00
1941	BY SALES	1150.00	26750.00
1942	BY SALES	1180.00	27930.00
1943	BY SALES	1200.00	29130.00
1944	BY SALES	1220.00	30350.00
1945	BY SALES	1250.00	31600.00
1946	BY SALES	1280.00	32880.00
1947	BY SALES	1300.00	34180.00
1948	BY SALES	1320.00	35500.00
1949	BY SALES	1350.00	36850.00
1950	BY SALES	1380.00	38230.00
1951	BY SALES	1400.00	39630.00
1952	BY SALES	1420.00	41050.00
1953	BY SALES	1450.00	42500.00
1954	BY SALES	1480.00	43980.00
1955	BY SALES	1500.00	45480.00
1956	BY SALES	1520.00	47000.00
1957	BY SALES	1550.00	48550.00
1958	BY SALES	1580.00	50130.00
1959	BY SALES	1600.00	51730.00
1960	BY SALES	1620.00	53350.00
1961	BY SALES	1650.00	55000.00
1962	BY SALES	1680.00	56680.00
1963	BY SALES	1700.00	58380.00
1964	BY SALES	1720.00	60100.00
1965	BY SALES	1750.00	61850.00
1966	BY SALES	1780.00	63630.00
1967	BY SALES	1800.00	65430.00
1968	BY SALES	1820.00	67250.00
1969	BY SALES	1850.00	69100.00
1970	BY SALES	1880.00	70980.00
1971	BY SALES	1900.00	72880.00
1972	BY SALES	1920.00	74800.00
1973	BY SALES	1950.00	76750.00
1974	BY SALES	1980.00	78730.00
1975	BY SALES	2000.00	80730.00
1976	BY SALES	2020.00	82750.00
1977	BY SALES	20	

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

Please delete the Abstract at page 8 in its entirety and substitute the following new Abstract. (An Abstract showing the changes using brackets and underlining is included as an attachment at the end of this Preliminary Amendment.)

[illegible]

## 5

operating system.--

**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is made to eliminate informalities in the specification, claims and abstract resulting from a literal translation of the French text, to insert heading to conform to U.S. format, and to eliminate the use of multiple dependent claims.

The present application is believed to be in condition for examination, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.

Date June 20, 2001

By: 

Edward J. Kondracki  
Registration No. 20,604

Miles & Stockbridge, P.C.  
1751 Pinnacle Drive, Suite 500  
McLean, Virginia 22102-3833  
Tel.: (703) 903-9000



**Complete Set of Amended Claims Showing Amendments Made By**

**Bracketing and Underlining:**

--9. (old claim 1) [Computing] A computing machine (1) comprising a RAM (3) and a mass memory (5) [in which an] operating system for the machine [is] stored in the mass memory, [characterized in that] the mass memory (5) [comprises] including a partition (8), said partition being [that is] read-only accessible to the operating system, [said partition (8)] and containing a startup function, an automatic repair function, and a mounting function for mounting said operating system.

10. (old claim 2) [Computing] A computing machine according to claim [1] 9, characterized in that said startup function comprises a first code sequence for loading the contents of the partition (8) into the RAM (3) and a second code sequence for activating [in RAM] said automatic repair function in the RAM.

11. (old claim 3) [Computing] A computing machine according to claim [2] 10, characterized in that said automatic repair function comprises a third code sequence that calls said mounting function, executable in RAM (3) with write capability in at least one other partition (9) of the mass memory (5).

12. (old claim 4) [Computing] A computing machine according to claim [3] 11, characterized in that said automatic repair function comprises a fourth code sequence for acknowledging an error indicated by said mounting function and a fifth code sequence for restarting the machine after the acknowledgement of the error.

1           13. (old claim 5)   [Computing] A computing machine according to claim [4]  
 2   12, characterized in that said partition (8) contains a standard acknowledgement  
 3   function and in that the fourth code sequence calls said standard acknowledgement  
 4   function executable in RAM with write capability in at least one other partition (9) of  
 5   the mass memory.

1           14. (old claim 6)   [Computing] A computing machine according to [any of the  
 2   preceding claims] claim 9, characterized in that the mass memory (5) is a hard disk.

1           15. (new claim) A computing machine according to claim 9, further including  
 2   a switch for resetting the RAM and restarting the machine.

1           16 (old claim 7)   [Method] A method for automatically starting a computing  
 2   machine (1) [comprising] having a RAM (3) and a mass memory (5) having an  
 3   operating system stored therein, characterized in that it comprises:

- 4           –     [a first step (14) that starts starting operation of the machine (1) by  
 5                 means of a signal (7);
- 6           –     [a second step (15) that automatically loads] loading into RAM (3) the  
 7                 contents of a partition (8) of the mass memory (5);
- 8           –     [a third step (16) that automatically mounts] mounting an operating  
 9                 system from the RAM (3); and
- 10          –     [a fourth step (17) that automatically acknowledges] acknowledging  
 11                 any error indicated in [the third step (16) and that reactivates the  
 12                 second step (15)] mounting the operating system and reactivating the  
 13                 loading of the contents.



**Abstract Showing Changes Made Using Brackets and Underlining:****ABSTRACT****[COMPUTING MACHINE WITH HARD STOP-TOLERANT DISK FILE  
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM]**

[The] A computing machine (1) comprises a RAM (3) and a mass  
 5 memory (5) in which an operating system is stored. The mass memory (5)  
 comprises a partition (8) that is read-only accessible to the operating system.  
 [, said] Said partition (8) [containing] contains a startup function, an automatic  
 repair function, and a function for mounting said operating system.

[Fig. 1]

10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Francois CUNCHON ET AL.

Serial No.: To be assigned.

Filed: June 20, 2001

For: **COMPUTING MACHINE WITH HARD  
STOP-TOLERANT DISK FILE  
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Examiner:

Group Art Unit:

Corresponding to:

FR 00 07862

Filed June 20, 2000

McLean, Virginia

**PROPOSED DRAWING CORRECTIONS**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant requests approval of the drawing corrections on Figs. 1 – 2  
as shown in red on the attached two (2) sheets.

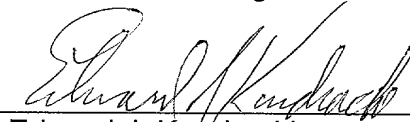
The proposed corrections only comprise labeling the blocks of Fig. 1 to  
correspond the drawing to the specification and claims and removing the  
headings "1/2" and "2/2" to conform the application to U.S. practice.

Respectfully submitted,

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.

Date June 20, 2001

By:



Edward J. Kondracki

Registration No. 20,604

Miles & Stockbridge, P.C.  
1751 Pinnacle Drive, Suite 500  
McLean, Virginia 22102-3833  
Tel.: (703) 903-9000

Fig.1

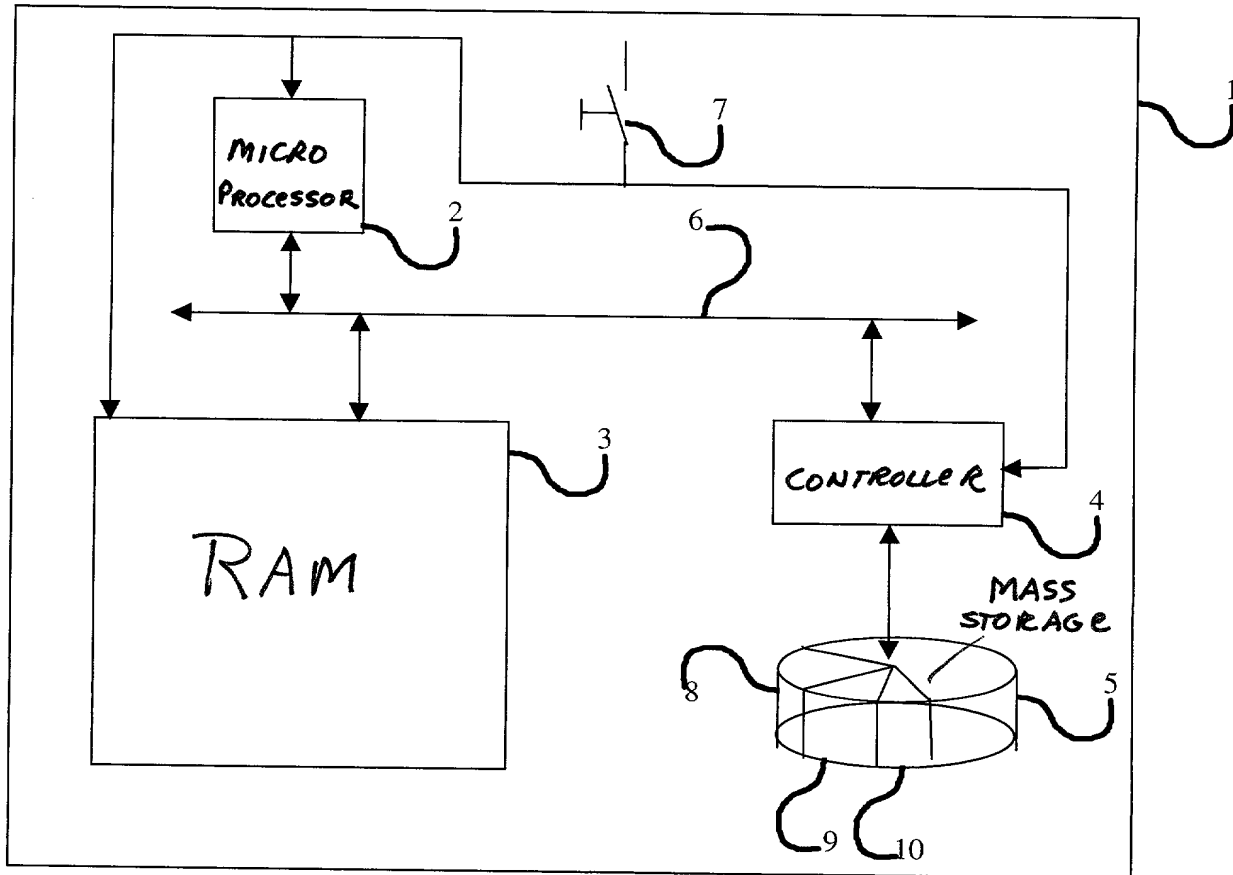


Fig.2

